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Art Unit 1634

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Appl. No. 09/608,066; Filed: June 30, 2000  
For: **Compositions and Methods for Enhanced Sensitivity and Specificity  
of Nucleic Acid Synthesis**  
Inventors: Astatke *et al.*  
Our Ref: 0942.4990001/RWE/BJD

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111; and
2. One (1) return postcard.

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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BJD/nef

Enclosures

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